

## **EXHIBIT C**

### **ARTHUR R. MARSHALL LOXAHATCHEE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE GOALS, STRATEGIES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

In accordance with terms of the License Agreement Between the South Florida Water Management District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the management of License Lands as part of the Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, performance goals and measures are listed below. Consistent with the Refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan, these goals and measures will be used by the District in their periodic evaluation of the management of the License Lands.

**GOAL: 1. Implement and maintain a natural resources management program in WCA 1 that is consistent with and complementary to the water resources management as required by the Everglades Forever Act and the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. (WMD)**

- Strategy. Meet with SFWMD & COE at regular intervals to discuss water operations.
  - a) Performance Measure. Meet at least quarterly with SFWMD to actively participate in operational discussions to assist SFWMD and Corps with water resource management decisions, including drought and flood management as well as compatibility with the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

**GOAL: 2. Maintain and restore integrity of the Everglades habitat within WCA 1 with particular attention to control of invasive exotic plants and protection of tree islands. (WMD)**

- Strategy. Use available measures such as prescribed fire and exotic control to enhance WCA 1 habitats
  - a) Performance Measure. Implement existing fire management plan and update at 5-year interval
  - b) Performance Measure. Complete and implement integrated exotics management plan (2002) which includes annual management strategies for Melaleuca, Old World climbing fern, Brazilian pepper and Australian pine, and update at 5-year interval
- Strategy. Acquire dedicated funds to conduct exotics control.
  - a) Performance Measure. Demonstrate efforts to obtain funding for exotics control.

- Strategy. Monitor and document coverage of exotic plant species in coordination with regional efforts.
  - a) Performance Measure. Conduct Systematic Reconnaissance Flight survey every two years.
- Strategy. Achieve and sustain maintenance level control of Melaleuca, Old World climbing fern, Brazilian pepper and Australian pine within 15 years.
  - a) Performance Measure. Percentage of infestation at sustain maintenance control will meet or exceed the following schedule:

Species	Year 2007	Year 2012	Year 2017
Melaleuca	20%	75%	100%
Old World climbing fern	10%	50%	100%
Brazilian pepper	20%	50%	100%
Australian pine	100%	100%	100%

**GOAL: 3. Facilitate regular monitoring and research to assess the condition of the area, including water and soil chemistry parameters, as well as key biological indices. (WMD)**

- Strategy. Maintain a policy of open research and monitoring opportunities.
  - a) Performance Measure. No less than 95% percent of special use research permits that meet refuge criteria that are approved.
- Strategy. Meet with cooperators, universities, and agencies to discuss research and monitoring on the Refuge.
  - a) Performance Measure. Facilitate annual meeting/workshop, on or before October 1, each year.
- Strategy. Ensure research and monitoring to document and assess tree island and wildlife sustainability.
  - a) Performance Measures. Complete research and monitoring plan, which includes tree island hydroperiod, fire, and exotic control issues by 2003.
  - b) Performance Measure. Implement an update research and monitoring plan at 5-year interval.

**GOAL: 4. Maintain a diverse public recreation program that includes limited access to the interior. (WMD)**

- Strategy. Maintain a policy of collaborative public awareness and environmental education.

- a) Performance Measure. Conduct an annual Everglades Day festival.
- Strategy. Increase public awareness of the role that the Refuge plays in the Everglades Ecosystem and CERP.
  - a) Performance Measure. Develop, implement and update at 5-year intervals an environmental education plan by December 2002.
- Strategy. Expand and maintain compatible wildlife dependant recreational opportunities
  - a) Performance Measure. Maintain canoe trails free of access limiting vegetation 95% of the year.